

**U.S. Department of Justice**

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Eastern District of Virginia*

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**NEWS RELEASE**

Paul J. McNulty, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, announced that Ipolito Campos, a/k/a "Polo", age 40, of Vera Cruz, Mexico, was found guilty of seven felony charges including attempted murder of an officer this afternoon by a federal jury in Norfolk, following a five day trial.

The attempted murder and gun charges arose after Campos shot State Trooper Howard Chambers, who was executing warrants for the Joint Terrorism Task Force. The warrants were being executed because of a tip concerning a threat to the water supply of the Eastern Shore. State Troopers acting under the authority of the FBI, knocked on the door, identified themselves and then entered the residence. Seconds after their entry, the defendant opened fire. In the course of the gunfire, Trooper Chambers was wounded.

Campos faces 20 years for attempted murder of a law enforcement officer, 20 years for forcibly assaulting and injuring an officer, 10 years for being an illegal alien in possession of firearms and ammunition, 10 years for using a short-barreled shotgun during and in furtherance of a crime of violence, 5 years for use of false immigration documents, 10 years for possession of an unregistered firearm, and 3 years for false representation of a social security number. Sentencing has been set September 16, 2003.

Mr. McNulty stated: "The jury's verdict provides justice and support for law enforcement officers who often have difficult and dangerous work to do in our communities. The U.S. Attorney's Office will always vigorously prosecute federal crimes against law enforcement officers."

The investigation was conducted by the Joint Terrorism Task Force of the Federal Bureau of Investigations. The prosecutors in this case are Assistant United States Attorney Michael R. Smythers and Assistant United States Attorney Joseph DePadilla.

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